

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7295

BILL NUMBER: HB 1226

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 3, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Various Election Law Matters.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Richardson

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: The bill provides that a person may not file election related documents by fax or electronic transmission unless specifically permitted or required by law. The bill makes other changes relating to filing election related documents. The bill provides that the deadline to withdraw as a primary election candidate does not apply to a candidate who is disqualified. The bill provides that a candidate who moves from the election district must file a notice of withdrawal immediately after the candidate's residence changes. The bill makes changes regarding designation of political contributions to candidates or committees. The bill removes obsolete date references and updates other references. The bill updates references to federal law.

Effective Date: Upon passage; January 1, 2005 (retroactive); July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* Under the provisions of the bill, the oversight responsibility of the Election Division would increase. The Election Division would likely require an increase in administrative time to fulfill the requirements of the bill. The cost to provide photocopies of party devices to counties would likely be minimal.

Background: The Election Commission/Division reverted \$63,947 back to the state General Fund at the end of FY 2004. The Election Division was appropriated \$794,571 in FY 2004 and \$725,571 in FY 2005.

As of December 2004, the Election Division had 13 staff positions. Four positions: a systems analyst, an unclassified executive position, a Governor's fellow, and a PAT 1 attorney were vacant. The other 10 positions included one attorney, two field auditors, two unclassified executive positions, two program coordinators, and two administrative personnel.

The Election Division had printing costs of about \$260 for forms and \$2,200 for non-forms in FY 2004. The Division's resources should be sufficient to develop the forms necessary to comply with the bill.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana Election Division

Local Agencies Affected: County election authorities.

Information Sources: *State of Indiana HRM Detail Staffing Report, December, 2004*; State Budget Agency: *FY2004 General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries*; State of Indiana: *List of Appropriations July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005*; BUDSTARS; Office of the State Auditor.

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